

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Atty. Docket

STEVEN J. VAN RAALTE ET AL

NL000709

Filed: CONCURRENTLY

Title: RING NETWORK BEING INSTALLED AS BUS NETWORK

Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 8, 9, and 10 to be in the form as follows. A marked up copy of the claims is included in an appendix following this amendment for the Examiners convenience.

8. (Amended) The ring network according to Claim 1, characterized in that the first (200-1) and/or the last node (200-5) respectively comprise a loop back terminator (115) for connecting the received forward line (105-1, 105-4) with the received return line (110-1, 110-4).

9. (Amended) The ring network according to claim 1, characterized in that said n-1 cable sections (100-1, ... 100-4) form one cable having appropriate cable connectors for being connected to the connectors (210, 220) of the nodes.

10. (Amended) The ring network according to claim 1, characterized in that the forward (105-1, ... 105-4) and the return line (110-1, ... 110-4) of at least one of said n-1 cable sections (100-1, ... 100-4) are embodied as optical fibres and that the nodes to which said optical fibres are connected comprise at least one fibre optical transceiver FOT (210', 220') for transforming an optical signal on said forward line (105-1...105-4) or on said return line (110-1...110-4) into an electrical signal before being sent to said network interface (230) or for transforming another electrical signal coming from said network interface into another optical signal for being sent to said forward or return line.

REMARKS

The foregoing Preliminary Amendment to the claims was made solely to avoid filing the claims in the multiple dependant form so as to avoid the additional filing fee.

The claims were not amended in order to address issues of patentability and Applicants respectfully reserves all rights they may have under the Doctrine of Equivalents. Applicants furthermore reserves their right to reintroduce subject matter deleted herein at a later time during the prosecution of this application or continuing applications.

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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APPENDIX A
MARKED-UP CLAIMS

8. (Amended) The ring network according to ~~one of claims 1 to 7~~
Claim 1, characterized in that the first (200-1) and/or the last
node (200-5) respectively comprise a loop back terminator (115) for
connecting the received forward line (105-1, 105-4) with the
received return line (110-1, 110-4).

9. (Amended) The ring network according to ~~one of claims 1 to 8~~
claim 1, characterized in that said n-1 cable sections (100-1, ...
100-4) form one cable having appropriate cable connectors for being
connected to the connectors (210, 220) of the nodes.

10. (Amended) The ring network according to ~~one of claims 1 to 9~~
claim 1, characterized in that the forward (105-1, ... 105-4) and
the return line (110-1, ... 110-4) of at least one of said n-1
cable sections (100-1, ... 100-4) are embodied as optical fibres
and that the nodes to which said optical fibres are connected
comprise at least one fibre optical transceiver FOT (210', 220')
for transforming an optical signal on said forward line (105-
1...105-4) or on said return line (110-1...110-4) into an
electrical signal before being sent to said network interface (230)
or for transforming another electrical signal coming from said
network interface into another optical signal for being sent to
said forward or return line.